Status of the

Iowa Workforce and Economy

Upcoming 2021 News Release Schedule

Release Schedule			
Reference Month	Statewide News Release	Local Area News Release	
Jan	Mar 15	Mar 15	
Feb	Mar 26	Mar 30	
Mar	Apr 16	Apr 20	
Apr	May 21	May 25	
May	Jun 23	Jun 23	
Jun	Jul 16	Jul 20	
Jul	Aug 20	Aug 24	
Aug	Sep 17	Sep 21	
Sep	Oct 22	Oct 26	
Oct	Nov 19	Nov 23	
Nov	Dec 17	Dec 21	
Dec	Jan 25	Jan 25	

Iowa Nonfarm Employment Seasonally Adjusted

Year	Month	lowa Statewide Employment	Leisure & Hospitality Employment
2021	Jan	1,515,200	118,700
	Feb	1,510,800	120,200
	Mar	1,523,200	121,900
	Apr	1,517,600	123,600
	May	1,518,800	125,300
	Jun	1,525,400	129,100
	Jul	1,534,900	135,000
	Aug	1,528,400	130,300

Iowa Workforce Development

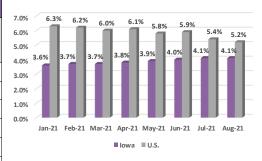
Information Prepared by the Labor Market Information Division

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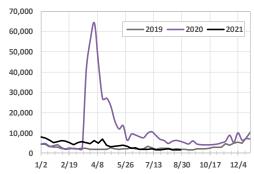
Donna Burkett, Bureau Chief Iowa Workforce Development

lowa and U.S. Unemployment Rates—2021



- lowa's unemployment rate remained at 4.1 percent in August. The state's jobless rate was 5.3 percent one year ago.
- The state's total unemployment level increased to 67,900 in August from 67,600 in July.
- The U.S. unemployment rate fell to 5.2 percent in August.

Iowa Initial Claims by Week



Source: ETA-539

- Initial claims have steadily declined from the height of the pandemic in April 2020 and are nearing initial claims values more representative of a typical year (2019).
- The annual average number of initial claims was 2,876 in 2019, 10,821 in 2020, and 3,972 through August 2021. This represents a 276.3 percent increase from 2019 to 2020 and a 63.3 percent decrease from 2020 to 2021.

- lowa establishments shed 6,500 jobs in August following a gain of 9,500 in July.
- Accommodations and food services lost 5,200 jobs this month. This decline follows an increase of 5,900 jobs in July. This is the first loss for leisure and hospitality since December, 2020.
- Durable goods factories fueled a gain of 1,600 jobs this month in manufacturing. This sector has previously gained 3,400 over the prior three months.
- Construction lost 700 jobs and has shown little overall trend since April 2020, gaining just 200 jobs during that span.
- Health care and social assistance added 600 jobs in August and 1,100 jobs in July.
 Prior to this, health care had lost jobs in six consecutive months to start 2021.
- Wholesale trade gained 600 jobs and is now up 1,600 jobs since May.
- Total nonfarm employment is up 37,400 jobs compared to one year ago. The largest gains have been in leisure and hospitality (+13,700), manufacturing (+8,100), and government (+4,500).
- Nationally, total nonfarm added 235,000 jobs in August. The largest gains were in professional and business services, transportation and warehousing, and private education.

Total Nonfarm Employment January 2020 to August 2021



DEVELOPMENT